

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 L-03 H-03

EUR-25 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /120 W

----- 016644

R 141905Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WSHDC 9708

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 0773

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, BR, GY

SUBJECT: GUYANA CONCLUDES BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL

REF: GEORGETOWN 0688; 0534

1. GUYANA AND BRAZIL SIGNED AN AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT ON MAY 10, AFTER FOUR DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS. THIS MARKS GUYANA'S FIRST CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT SINCE INDEPENDENCE IN 1966. LOCAL PRESS HAILED EVENT AS HISTORIC FIRST AND REFERRED TO "AN EXCHANGE OF CONFIDENTIAL LETTERS".

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRAZILIAN SECOND SECRETARY (RIBEIRO) WHO EMPHASIZED THAT TALKS WERE NOTHING LIKE THOSE GOG HELD PREVIOUSLY WITH UK AND NETHERLANDS REPRESENTATIVES. AGREEMENT SIMPLY SETS FORTH, HE SAID, SERVICE RIGHTS ON TWO ROUTES, NAMELY GEORGETOWN-BOA VISTA-MANAUS, AND GEORGETOWN-PARAMARIBO-BELEM. BRAZIL RETAINS THE RIGHT TO MANAGE ITS OWN AGENCY IN GEORGETOWN. GOG MADE NO DEMANDS FOR PRE-DETERMINATION, COMPENSATION, OR SERVICING. BRAZILIANS, ACCORDING TO RIBEIRO,

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NOTED AT OUTSET OF TALKS THAT THEY COULD NOT MEET THE TERMS

GIVEN TO THEIR UK AND DUTCH PREDECESSORS. REST OF NEGOTIATIONS THEN CENTERED AROUND ROUTES AND BRAZIL'S INSISTENCE ON HAVING ITS OWN AGENCY IF IT CHOSE.

3. COMMENT: -GOG'S SUCCESS IN THESE TALKS PROBABLY RESULT OF TRUE INTEREST IN DEVELOPING PASSENGER SERVICE TO BOA VISTA AND MANAUS. GUYANA AIRWAYS ALREADY HAS IRREGULAR FREIGHT RUN TO BOA VISTA. GOY WAS ALSO HARD-PRESSED FOR SOME KIND OF SUCCESS IN CIVAIR BILATERALS, GIVEN THE REACTION IT HAS HAD FROM THE UK, DUTCH , AND US. WHEN ASKED ABOUT "CONFIDENTIAL LETTERS, RIBEIRO LOOKED PUZZLED AND SAID NO MORE CAME OUT OF TALKS THAN THE AGREEMENT ITSELF. HE OPINED THAT GOG-PRESS PROBABLY MADE STATEMENT TO GIVE SENSE OF FAR-REACHING IMPORTANCE TO THE EVENT. FYI. PRESS ARTICLE ALSO NOTED THAT TALKS WITH US AND FRANCE HAVE NOT YET BEGUN, AND THAT DEADLINE FOR NEGOTIATIONS IS JUNE 30. KREBS

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30 JUN 2005

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